

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces and supersedes all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Currently amended): A composition comprising:

(a) an alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycoside;

(b) at least one anionic surfactant foam stabilizer and mucous membrane compatibility-enhancing dicarboxylic acid monoester or salt thereof, which salt is selected from the group consisting of alkali metal salts, alkaline earth metal salts, ammonium salts, alkyl ammonium salts, alkanol ammonium salts and glucammonium salts, wherein, the monoester comprises the residue of a C₆₋₂₂ fatty alcohol; and

(c) optionally, at least one active ingredient selected from the group consisting of cosmetic active ingredients, pharmaceutical active ingredients, and mixtures thereof;

and wherein the composition exhibits increased foam stability and reduced irritation as compared with component (a) alone.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): The composition of claim 12 wherein the foam stabilizer is a monoester of a C₂₋₁₂ dicarboxylic acid.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The composition of claim 12 wherein the foam stabilizer is a monoester of a dicarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of oxalic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, glutaric acid, adipic acid, pimelic acid, azelaic acid, sebacic acid, dodecanedioic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 15-16 (Cancelled).

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The composition of claim 12 wherein the foam stabilizer is a monoester of adipic acid with a C₁₂₋₁₈ fatty alcohol.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): A process for enhancing the dermatological and ophthalmic mucous membrane compatibility of a cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical composition which comprises adding to the composition an effective amount of a surfactant mixture containing:

- (a) an alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycoside; and
- (b) at least one anionic surfactant foam stabilizer and mucous membrane compatibility-enhancing dicarboxylic acid monoester or salt thereof, which salt is selected from the group consisting of alkali metal salts, alkaline earth metal salts, ammonium salts, alkyl ammonium salts, alkanol ammonium salts, and glucammonium salts, wherein, the monoester comprises the residue of a C₆₋₂₂ fatty alcohol; and
- (c) optionally, at least one active ingredient selected from the group consisting of cosmetic active ingredients, pharmaceutical active ingredients, and mixtures thereof;

and wherein the surfactant mixture exhibits increased foam stability and reduced irritation as compared with component (a) alone.

Claim 19 (Previously presented): The process of claim 18 wherein the foam stabilizer is a monoester of a C2-12 dicarboxylic acid.

Claim 20 (Previously presented): The process of claim 18 wherein the foam stabilizer is a monoester of a dicarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of oxalic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, glutaric acid,

adipic acid, pimelic acid, azelaic acid, sebacic acid, dodecanedioic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 21-22 (Cancelled).

Claim 23 (Previously presented): The process of claim 18 wherein the foam stabilizer is a monoester of adipic acid with a C₁₂₋₁₈ fatty alcohol.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The composition of claim 12, wherein, both (a) and (b) have matching alk(en)yl groups.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The process of claim 18, wherein, both (a) and (b) have matching alk(en)yl groups.

Claim 26 (Currently amended): The composition of claim 12, wherein, [[a]] the weight ratio of (a):(b) is from 5:95 to 95:5.

Claim 27 (Previously presented): The composition of claim 26, wherein, the weight ratio of (a):(b) is from 10:90 to 90:10.

Claim 28 (Previously presented): The composition of claim 27, wherein, the weight ratio of (a):(b) is from 25:75 to 75:25.

Claim 29 (Currently amended): The composition process of claim 18, wherein, [[a]] the weight ratio of (a):(b) is from 5:95 to 95:5.

Claim 30 (Currently amended): The composition process of claim 29, wherein, the weight ratio of (a):(b) is from 10:90 to 90:10.

Claim 31 (Currently amended): The ~~composition process~~ of claim 30, wherein, the weight ratio of (a):(b) is from 25:75 to 75:25.

Claim 32 (New): The composition of claim 12 wherein the active substance content comprises 5 to 50% by weight based on the composition.

Claim 33 (New): The method of claim 18 wherein the active substance content comprises 5 to 50% by weight based on the composition.